

LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

All cattle and calves farms on January 1, 2002, totaled 44,000 head, 4,000 less than a year ago. Value per head increased \$60 from the previous year to \$1,020. The 2002 inventory value was estimated at \$44.9 million, \$1.2 million less than the total of a year ago.

Milk cow numbers on January 1, 2002, decreased by 3,000 to 13,000 head. Beef cows were estimated at 8,000 head, the same as the January 1, 2001, total. Of the total cattle and calf inventory, cows that have calved accounted for 48 percent. Heifers weighing 500 pounds or more totaled 11,000 head, 25 percent of total inventory. Of these 6,000 were milk cow replacements, 3,000 were beef cow replacements, and 2,000 were intended for slaughter. There were 3,000 steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 7 percent of all cattle and calves. Bulls at 500 pounds and greater numbered 1,000 head or 2 percent of the total inventory. Calves under 500 pounds accounted for the remaining 8,000 animals, 18 percent of all cattle and calves on January 1, 2002. The 2001 calf crop was 2,000 head less than 2000, totaling 18,000 head.

Milk production in the Garden State totaled 233 million pounds, down 4.5 percent from the 244 million pounds produced in 2000. The average number of milk cows decreased to 14,000 head. Milk per cow averaged 16,643 pounds in 2001 compared to 15,250 a year earlier. The leading milk producing counties were Burlington, Salem, Sussex, and Warren, accounting for 74 percent of the state's total. Value of milk production totaled \$37.5 million during 2001, compared to \$32.2 million in 2000.

All hogs and pigs on New Jersey farms totaled 13,000 head on December 1, 2001. This number

was a decrease of 1,000 head (7 percent) from the number of head on December 1, 2000. Value per head averaged \$98, \$8 more than a year ago.

The total value of the hog and pig inventory amounted to \$1.27 million, compared to \$1.26 the previous year. Of the total hogs and pigs on farm in the state, 15 percent were kept for breeding and 85 percent were market hogs. The New Jersey pig crop totaled 12,800, up 39 percent from 2000.

Egg production in the Garden State in 2001 decreased to 556 million eggs, compared to 574 million eggs in 2000. Eggs per layer averaged 274, down from 283 the year before. Average layer numbers on New Jersey farms totaled 2.03 million during 2001, unchanged from 2000. In 2001, poultry managers in the state received on average 53 cents per dozen eggs, the same as the previous year. The value of egg production in 2001 was down 2 percent from 2000 at \$24.6 million.

Turkey production in 2001 was 44,000 birds, down 15,000 from the number of turkeys raised the previous year. Turkey growers received an average price of 80 cents per pound, 1 cent more than the price in 2000. In 2001, the value of production decreased to \$714,000, down 26 percent from \$969,000 the year before.

Honey production in 2001 amounted to 374,000 pounds, decreasing 3 percent from the 385,000 pounds produced the year before. Beekeepers received an average price of 82 cents per pound in 2001, up 21 cents from the previous year. The value of production rose from the 2000 level of \$235,000 to \$307,000.

